

When do you say, "it's just not good enough"?

That's what I did yesterday when the House voted on a new continuing resolution to fund government operations for three more weeks.

I voted against this continuing resolution because our country cannot limp along on short-term funding measures while failing to actually address our debt and spending crisis.

As I said in a recent op-ed:

*The hard reality is that every penny of our hard earned tax dollars is spent on entitlements and paying interest on our current debt. Everything we spend on the necessary functions of government, including national defense, simply adds to the debt. □ This year, we will pay over 206 billion dollars in interest. But in five years, that number will balloon to an estimated 562 billion dollars – and continue to rise. In order to afford just the interest on our national debt, we will be forced to cut nearly half of all discretionary spending in just five years.*

Read more of my thoughts on the CR on the [Missouri Record blog](#).

While we are debating spending issues in the House, even Americans with good jobs are feeling the pinch at the pump. Turmoil in the Middle East has affected the price of petroleum once again and fueled the debate on energy independence. My latest [web poll](#) asks for your thoughts on how policymakers should respond.